

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00593 050008Z

50

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 SY-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 PM-07

EB-11 AGR-20 /099 W

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R 042039Z AQR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6966

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 0593

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: DO PINS

SUBJ: DOMINICA GOVERNMENT INVOKES EMERGENCY POWERS TO COMBAT
VANDALISM ON ESTATES

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS, DOMINICA GOVERNOR SIR LOUIS COOLS-
LARTIQUE DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY IN SOUTHEAST PARISH OF
ST. PATRICK'S APRIL 3 FOLLOWING OUTBREAK OF ARSON AND VANDALISM
ON GENEVA ESTATE OWNED BY BUSINESSMAN ELIAS NASSIEF. GOVERNOR
ALSO ACTIVATED DOMINICA DEFENSE FORCE TO DEAL WITH SITUATION.

2. UNIDENTIFIED GROUP OF DOMINICANS WHICH CLAIMS TO OWN PART
OF ESTATE LANDS IS BELIEVED RESPONSIBLE FOR RECENT SPATE OF
LOOTING, SLAUGHTERING OF CATTLE, ARSON AND ARMED RESISTANCE TO
POLICE. DISSIDENTS ALSO SAID TO HAVE CUT TELEPHONE LINES AND
ERECTED ROAD BLOCKS IN APPARENT EFFORT TO ISOLATE ESTATE AND
NEARBY TOWN OF GRAND BAY. ESTATE HOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE EVEN-
ING APRIL 1. HOURS LATER, STORE OWNED BY NASSIEF IN CAPITAL OF
ROSSAU ALSO GUTTED BY FIRE WHICH REPORTEDLY THREATENED ENTIRE
ROSEAU BUSINESS DISTRICT. ARSON SUSPECTED IN BOTH CASES.
POLICE CLAIM THEY ARE RECEIVING LITTLE COOPERATION FROM
LOCAL RESIDENTS IN THEIR INVESTIGATIONS.

3. NASSIEF, WHO IS A LEBANESE ORIGIN, HAS RESIDED IN DOMINICA
FOR PAST FORTY YEARS. ACCORDING TO US CITIZEN FORMERLY RESIDENT
IN THE ISLAND, NASSIEF'S TROUBLES BEGAN WHEN, AFTER PURCHASING
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GENEVA ESTATE, HE ATTEMPT TO EVICT SQUATTERS WHO HAD BEEN FARM-
ING ESTATE LANDS.
DONOVAN

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 04 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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